

UNDER FALLING WALLS.

**FATAL ACCIDENT AT A FIRE IN MILWAUKEE
KILL TWO MEN THIS MORNING.**

A Number of Firemen Caught Under a Falling Wall—Two Men Killed and Many Seriously Injured—Several Men Still Buried in the Ruins—Destruction of a Business Block—Heavy Loss—A Stone-ware Factory Burned—Fires.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 13.—A fire which started at 1:35 this morning completely destroyed the large four-story brick building on West Water street, occupied by Atkins, Ordert & Co., shoe manufacturers, and the Thomas & Co. shoe store, and the building was completely destroyed. The building was a four-story brick building, and the fire started in the basement. The fire spread rapidly, and the building was completely destroyed. The fire was caused by a gas leak in the basement. The fire was caused by a gas leak in the basement. The fire was caused by a gas leak in the basement.

sale dealers and manufacturers of brass goods and engine trimmings. About half an hour after the fire broke out, the north wall of the burning structure fell with a great crash, demolishing a one-story addition in the rear of Gumbel Bros., destroying goods establishment and burying a number of firemen in the ruins. Herman Lecher, first pipefitter of engine No. 5, was the first to be fortunate rescued. He died at 3 a. m., at the Central Fire Station. The body of John H. Hummel of truck No. 1 was recovered about two hours later. It is feared that others are buried under the debris, which is being removed by the fire department. A list of the burning structure is a list of the victims so far as known at present:

THE VICTIMS.

HERMAN LECHER, first pipeman No. 5, taken

JOHN HUMMEL, taken from the ruins dead.
THOMAS CLAREY, cab driver, cut very badly
about the head by glass.
JACK COUGHLIN, 35, hurt about legs
and arms and cut badly on the head.
JOHN COUGHLIN, Chemical No. 2, one leg
crushed.
PETER VAUGHAN of Chemical No. 1, crushed,
and arms and legs injured.

THE LOSSES.

The losses, as estimated at this hour, will
not fall much short of \$275,000. Atkins, Ogden
& Co. carried a stock valued somewhere
between \$100,000 and \$150,000. They carried
also a large worth of insurance. The Thomas
& Wenworth Manufacturing Company figures
their loss at about \$50,000. The building
was owned by John Plankinton, as is also the
store occupied by Gimbel Bros. The former

maining walls will probably all have to be torn down. The loss on this building will reach \$60,000, covered by insurance. The loss on the building which was destroyed by the explosion probably not exceed \$5,000, as the only damage was caused by the falling in of the small one-story extension in the rear and the blowing out of the front plate-glass windows. Gimbel Bros. probably lose \$20,000 on stock. The loss on the building owned by Burdette, however, is not known, and it was only by the hardest kind of work that the flames were prevented from destroying the entire square.

TURNED UP ALIVE.

John Hammit, 35, who was reported as having been taken from the ruins dead, turned up all right after the excitement had subsided. He was found by a fireman, who rescued him, and he was taken by Richard Langston, an engine driver, who had both legs and arms badly mangled by the explosion.

Fire at the Home of the Chief Forester.—The fire at the home of the Chief Forester had a narrow escape from death.

THE LOSS HEAVY.—The loss was \$425,000, and the insurance about \$250,000. The cause of the fire is unknown. It started in the morning at about 10 o'clock, and spread rapidly. It was extinguished at 11:30. The fire destroyed the home of the Chief Forester, and the home of the Chief Forester's wife. The fire also destroyed the home of the Chief Forester's daughter, and the home of the Chief Forester's son. The fire also destroyed the home of the Chief Forester's daughter-in-law, and the home of the Chief Forester's son-in-law. The fire also destroyed the home of the Chief Forester's daughter-in-law, and the home of the Chief Forester's son-in-law.

Stoneware Factory Destroyed.

By Telegram to the Post-Dispatch.

CLINTON, Mo., March 15.—Word reached here this morning of a fire at Calhoun, twelve miles east of here, on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, which consumed J. F. Dawson's stoneware manufactory, a two-story building, containing a large stock of stoneware. The damage was between \$2,000 and \$3,000. The fire broke out at 10 o'clock, and was extinguished at 11:30. The fire was caused by a gas stove in the kitchen of Mr. Baker, a prominent citizen of Mon-

Barn Burned.
By Telegram to the POST-DISPATCH.
CHESTER Ill., March 15.—A large barn on the farm of Mr. Skuttler, four miles from this city, on the plank road, was burned last night with its contents, all of feed and machinery. The origin of the fire is unknown. The loss was serious; insurance \$400.

DELAYED SETTLEMENT.

Congressman Howard of Indiana Sued on His Bond.

Howard, Congressman from the Third District of Indiana, was sued in the Jeffersonville Circuit Court yesterday for \$100,000.

In 1967 Mr. Howard was appointed the guardian of Dr. Anthony S. Westphal, whose estate was valued at about \$70,000. The guardian's bond was fixed at \$40,000. The doctor's bond became \$100,000 and he was incapable of caring for his business affairs. On January 1, 1968, Dr. Westphal died. Dr. Sam Taggart was appointed administrator of the estate, and Dr. Howard was named as executor. To turn over the money and property he had been seeking after for the doctor, Dr. Howard had to make some deal about the matter and Dr. Taggart decided to bring suit. The amount due the estate from Mr. Howard is \$60,000.

FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED.

Merriam of Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 15.—The relatives of Alden Merriam of the firm of Ormaby & Merriam of this city, who has been missing since Monday night last, have been informed that he was murdered. He left his office at 530 that evening and nothing has since been seen of him. He had in his possession several hundred dollars in money, a fine gold watch and chain and some diamond jewelry, and the police, as well as his family, are now in a way laid, wondering and his body disposed of. Mr. Merriam was a young man of moral character, with a good competence and a high standing in his profession, and the idea that troubles a of kind induced him to leave the city.

Made Inmate by Christian Science.

By Telegram to the Post-Democrat.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 15.—Mrs. F. well known in this city, was to-day in inmate. About six months ago she was attacked by insanity. Her relatives prevailed upon her to go to a sanatorium to practice their faith cure on her. The effect of the treatment was such that she is now so feeble that she is dangerous to herself.

X. H. Seelbach, of the firm of Seelbach & Co., of Chicago, has been appointed printer of the Vine Street Journal and will publish the paper every Sunday morning. His father, Chester, died of cancer of the throat.

CK & CO.

